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**Dates for 2021/22**

# PARENTMEET

- Thursday, 17 March 2022
- Thursday, 19 May 2022

# PARENT FORUM

- Thursday, 3 February 2022
- Thursday, 9 June 2022

**5.00pm – 6.15pm**

For further information and to book  
a place on the next meeting please  
visit the College website  
[www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](http://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)



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Thursday, 27 January  
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Monday, 7 February  
5.00-6.00pm

Monday, 28 March  
6.00-7.00pm

Via Microsoft Teams  
(you will be invited to the meeting)

Please Register online at:  
[www.westst.org.uk/train-to-teach-events](http://www.westst.org.uk/train-to-teach-events)





# THE COLLEGE ECHO

IVYBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ISSUE NO. 87 AUTUMN 2021



**BBC SPOTLIGHT NEWS INTERVIEW**



**CHARACTER EDUCATION**





# Welcome to Ivybridge Community College

<b>College News</b>	<b>1</b>
Governors' News	2
News	3 - 5
Wellbeing at Ivybridge	6 - 7
Character Education	8 - 9
Transition Enrichment Day	10
Summer School	11
Creative Arts	12 - 13
BTEC Public Services and Sport	14 - 15
Science	16 - 17
STEM	18
Mathematics	19
Modern Foreign Language	20
English	21
Performing Arts	22
Learning Resource Centre	23
Elite Talent Programme	24 - 26
Sporting Achievements	27
Sixth Form	28



For more information on any of the news articles please visit our website:  
[www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](http://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)

Who can believe it was only 14 weeks ago when our new Year 7 students walked through the College gates for the first time and we welcomed a sense of normality back into the routines of College life.

It is always a real privilege every term to be able to showcase the College Echo and to champion the successes from across our learning community and this Autumn 2021 Edition doesn't disappoint!

In fact, what makes this edition even more meaningful is the way in which our students and staff have risen to the challenge; taking every opportunity to embrace College life and supporting one another in a bid to ensuring their learning experience is what drives our College ethos.

Having the privilege of hosting Professor Lee Elliot Major last month gave us all the opportunity to reflect on how we can best support our learners both within and beyond the College day. What really resonated was the impact the last 24 months has had on all of us, both as individuals and as a wider community and as a result, the importance of building strong relationships. Now, more than ever we need to seek every opportunity to work more closely with each other, to have the courage to speak out when we are struggling and to always put our positive step forward first. In true Ivybridge style we need to make every day count, seizing all opportunities to really engage and be present in our learning and not simply let others do the hard work when the going gets tough.

Thank you to all our staff, parents and carers who go above and beyond in ensuring we can continue to place the students at the heart of everything we do.

Enjoy celebrating some of our highlights from this term and remember to keep sharing all of your many exciting and adventurous experiences.

Very best wishes  
**Rachel Hutchinson**  
**Principal**

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## Term Dates 2022/23

Please refer to the College website for upcoming events

### Spring Term Starts

#### Spring Term 2022

Tuesday, 4 Jan 2022 - (Staggered return - please refer to College website for further information.)

### Half Term Term Ends

Monday, 21 Feb 2022 - Monday, 28 Feb 2022 inc  
Friday, 8 Apr 2022

### Summer Term Starts May Day Half Term Term Ends

#### Summer Term 2022

Monday, 25 Apr 2022

Monday, 2 May 2022

Monday, 30 May 2022 - Friday, 3 Jun 2022 inc  
Friday, 22 Jul 2022

### Autumn Term Starts Half Term Term Ends

#### Autumn Term 2022

Monday, 5 Sept 2022

Monday, 24 Oct 2022 - Monday, 31 Oct 2022 inc  
Friday, 16 Dec 2022

### Spring Term Starts Half Term Term Ends

#### Spring Term 2023

Wednesday 4 Jan 2023

Monday, 13 Feb 2023 - Monday, 20 Feb 2023 inc  
Friday, 31 Mar 2023

### Summer Term Starts May Day Half Term Term Ends

#### Summer Term 2023

Tuesday, 18 Apr 2023

Monday, 1 May 2023

Monday, 29 May 2023 - Friday, 2 Jun 2023 inc  
Friday, 21 Jul 2023







## College News

1

### Spotlight on College Induction Week

On Tuesday, 7 September Ivybridge Community College was delighted to welcome the team from BBC Spotlight to witness the return of our students to the College as they embarked on their Induction Week.

They took a tour of our Lateral Flow Testing Facility and spoke to staff and students about the measures in place to ensure a safe and uninterrupted return for all. They were also able to see our new Year 7

cohort gathering on the Track for their registration and commented on their smart, professional appearance as well as the positivity and enthusiasm with which they were approaching the day.

Charlotte Hanton, Assistant Principal and Tom Brown, College Director for Year 10 were involved in the interviews

during the day. Charlotte commented that, "The first day for Year 7 is always exciting, but to have the opportunity for students to share their experiences was wonderful. The new Year 7 cohort have faced challenges in their transition but have overcome these with ease, and we are so proud of how well they have started their journey at Ivybridge Community College."

Year 7 students Nick, Oscar, Lucy and Esme and Year 10 student mentors Mia, Thomas, Jasmine and Arabella were also interviewed for the BBC Spotlight News programme and we are extremely proud of how well they engaged with the interviewers questions and gave very interesting and informative answers.







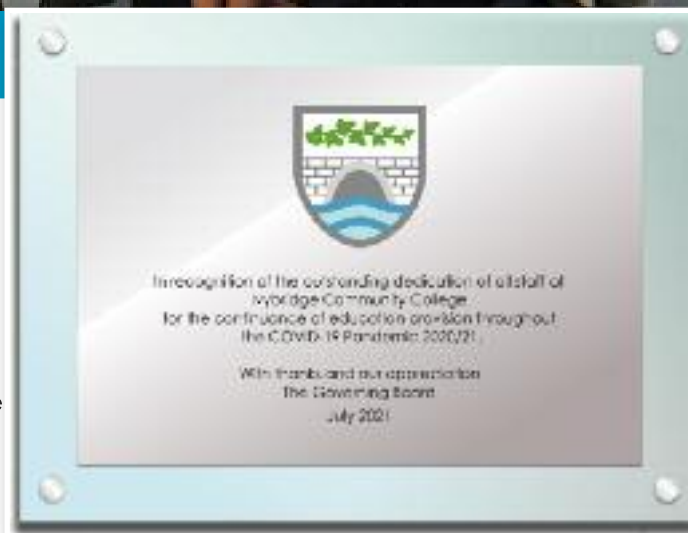
## Recognition of Staff Dedication and Innovation

### 2 Governors' News

At the start of the new academic year, the College hosted a celebration afternoon during which new staff had the opportunity to meet members of the Governing Board and Leadership Team. This event marked the occasion of the unveiling of a commemorative plaque that had been commissioned by Michael Saltern, the Chair of the College's Governing Board, to recognise the efforts of all the staff at the College during the recent unprecedented times.

"The College Governing Board has, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, been immensely proud of the way staff across the College had committed to ensuring the continuance of education, in what can only be described as the most difficult circumstances ever encountered in our life time.

It seemed to us that that such tremendous effort and determination by everyone in the College may be forgotten with the passage of time and it was extremely important that this did not happen. From this, the idea of a plaque emerged and was duly commissioned, with each Governor contributing to meet the cost. This would stand, not only as a thoroughly deserved tribute to our staff, but a permanent reminder to our future generations of staff and students of the dedication and innovation shown, in this truly challenging time." Michael Saltern, Chair of Governors.



### Pen Portrait - Simon Whitehorn

Simon has been a governor since 2017 representing the non-teaching staff and his link areas are Estates, and Health and Safety. He is the Performing Arts Manager at the College and member of the Safeguarding Team with responsibility for risk management at performances and events. Both of Simon's children have been educated at the College, and have particularly enjoyed the unique combination of academic excellence and the thriving enrichment programme.

Simon was born in London and trained in Stage Management and Technical Theatre at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, and also has a degree in Music from the Open University. Before he started working at the College in 2004, Simon spent seventeen years as a Theatre Sound Designer, where he worked on over two hundred plays and musicals, including many in the West End, at the National Theatre and on Broadway.

Simon has taught Sound Design at many establishments including RADA, Central, Rose Bruford, GSA and the Danish National Theatre School in Copenhagen. He currently teaches at the East 15 School of Acting, University of Essex. Simon is a Freeman of the City of London, and in his spare time he sings with the Plymouth Philharmonic Choir.





## Helen Reddy presented with British Empire Medal

Helen Reddy, Director of Sport and Enrichment at the College, has been presented with her British Empire Medal (BEM) by the Lord Lieutenant of Devon, David Fursdon.

Helen, received the award at a specially organised ceremony held at the Lymestone Commando Training Centre, in Devon, after the COVID-19 pandemic halted the planned presentation in 2020.

The Lord Lieutenant thanked Helen, on behalf of the Queen, in recognition of her Services to Educational Gymnastics. The British Empire Medal (BEM) is a British and Commonwealth award for meritorious civil or military service worthy of recognition by the Crown. The current honour was created in 1922 and is affiliated to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

After the presentation Helen said, "It was a wonderful privilege to receive the award at such a grand occasion. At the ceremony there were so many exceptional people who have done wonderful things for the community, so it was an honour to receive my award in such good company."



## News 3

## Keynote Session with Professor Lee Elliot Major Inspires College Community

In November, the College was delighted to host Professor Lee Elliot Major (OBE) of the University of Exeter. As Britain's first Professor of Social Mobility, Lee Elliot Major is a global leader in the field. His work is dedicated to improving educational prospects for children and young people, and he has written several award-winning books about education and social mobility.

As part of his visit, Professor met with a number of staff and students at the College, to gain an insight into the lives and experiences of our community. The opportunity to learn about The Ivybridge Way and to conduct learning visits provided an enriching experience of our College life. The day provided a deep insight into the College's context.

During the College's ParentMeet, (a themed information sharing evening for parents), Professor Lee Elliot Major provided a very engaging and informative keynote session on his newly published book *The Good Parent Educator*. This session shared evidence-based guidance and support to parents and carers on how to best support their child's learning, and how to work collaboratively with the College to support their child's progress.

The day was a fantastic opportunity for the College to work closely alongside Professor Lee Elliot Major, and we are looking forward to more opportunities to do so further in the near future.

"It was absolutely fantastic to have the opportunity to welcome Professor Lee Elliot Major to the College. I have worked with Lee on a number of previous occasions, through my doctoral studies at the University of Exeter and on a co-authored piece for the Time Education Supplement last year. It was great to welcome him to our College community and to introduce him to our students, parents and colleagues. The day provided an excellent opportunity for reflection, and there are many things we will take away from it. We will be delighted to welcome Professor Lee Elliot Major back to the College soon." Emily Tyers, Recovery Programme and Pupil Premium Strategic Lead.





## College Celebrates Successful Year 6 Open Evenings

The College welcomed prospective students and their parents and carers to two Year 6 Open Evenings. These events were an opportunity for the families to meet with staff and students and have a tour of the College, whilst learning more about what is on offer.

Parents contacted the College and gave their opinions about the evenings saying, "My husband and son came to your Open Evening last night, and what they saw, they loved!" "We came for the Open Evening and I was very impressed." "My daughter loved seeing the College this evening and has come back buzzing. I asked her what all of her friends are saying and they all feel exactly the same!"

Gabriel and Anna-Mae, in Year 8, and Edward in Year 12, gave welcome speeches to the audiences and Sixth Form BTEC Performing Arts students gave wonderful performances. There was also an opportunity to tour the College and experience Curriculum Subject presentations, Gymnastic performances, PE activities and Science experiments.

"We were delighted to meet Year 6 parents, carers and their children at both of our Open Evenings. It has been wonderful to once again open our College to prospective students. We are especially proud of our Student Ambassadors from Years 7 to 13, who were invaluable in supporting such successful evenings." Charlotte Hanton, Assistant Principal.



## 4 News

### Swimrun Achievement in South Wales!

Claire Davidson, who is a teacher of English at the College, and her husband, took part in the Breca Gower Swimrun in South Wales during the summer. The 20km event, beginning at the stunning Oxwich Bay and finishing at Underhill Park, took in some of the most beautiful sights that the Gower Peninsula has to offer.

Swimrun is a point A to point B event. It begins with a short run until water is reached, then a swim until land is reached and so on. Competitors race in pairs usually, wearing a wetsuit, trainers, a pull buoy and paddles, and are often lashed together with a 2m bungee to ensure they don't become separated. It's also a handy tow rope when one member of the team becomes fatigued and needs a bit of help. Competitors start together, run in their wetsuits, swim in their trainers and finish together.

The Davidsons were competing in their fifth Swimrun event. "I absolutely love this sport," said Mrs Davidson, "It is so much fun to compete with my husband, and work as a team throughout. We both know the Gower extremely well, and local knowledge of the rip currents gave us a lot of help on the swims. Unfortunately I struggled a bit on the second 7.8km run in my wetsuit. The coast path was extremely hilly and we lost a bit of ground."

After 2 hours and 56 minutes the Davidsons crossed the finish line in 7th place. "We did lose a few places in the latter stages of the race," said Mrs Davidson, "but as 43 mixed teams started the day, and 40 finished, I'm more than happy with that."



### Celebrating Local Community Links

The Holiday Activity Programme at the College offers an abundance of opportunities for children aged 5 to 16 years. During this summer's activities Hannah Skelley, Services Manager at Tesco Ivybridge Lee Mill Extra, offered the participating children fruit and water as part of their FareShare campaign supporting local community groups. The lucky recipients of the donations included children attending one of the full day Plymouth Argyle sessions. Charlie Hardcastle, Regional Participation Manager for the Argyle Community Trust explained that they run community based activities every half term at the College with sessions covering drills, small sided games and competitions.

Hannah said, "I saw this as a fantastic opportunity to reach out to local groups and clubs running throughout the summer holidays, and organised a donation of 50 bottles of water and 50 pieces of fruit for the children attending the Plymouth Argyle Football training at the College, which was gratefully received." Holiday Activity Programme organiser, Chris Tregidgo, said, "The College is very grateful to Tesco for supporting our Holiday Activity Programme. Having worked hard throughout the Plymouth Argyle training session, the fruit and water was very much appreciated at lunch time by the children."





## Literacy Focus at College Parents' Forum

In September, parents and carers once again joined Senior Leaders and staff members at the College for a successful face-to-face Parents' Feedback Forum. This time, the forum was focused upon Literacy, and held in the College's fantastic Learning Resource Centre, surrounded by books.

They had an opportunity to meet new staff, including Scott Davies, WeST's Executive Director of English who explained the core offer focused upon literacy, and new Assistant Principal, Vicky Thornton, who delivered a lesson using the College's Year 7 Forensic Reading lesson plans. They also heard from Holly Trafford, Librarian and Forensic Reading Lead, about the immersive experiences and competitions promoted by the Learning Resource Centre, and offered to all students at the College.



Following this, a number of incredibly clever suggestions were put forward, such as using Forensic Reading to promote the uptake of Psychology or Sociology and considering how to build Forensic Reading into Home Learning activities.

Kelly Olive, Deputy Principal, explained how literacy was being explored across the curriculum in order to ensure connectivity for the students. Amy Pearce, Assistant Principal responsible for leading the group, carried out a post-it note activity to ensure we are building the forums around areas that parents and carers wish to discuss at future evenings.

If you are interested in joining the next Parent Forum or ParentMeet please visit the College website for more information and to register for future events.

## News 5

### Students Celebrate Exam Results

Students celebrated success on their results days once again and we are extremely proud of each and every one of them. They received grades which are a testament to their hard work and commitment throughout their studies and which really promotes our mantra that hard work and effort every day really does pay off. We are confident that our students have the grades they fully deserve and which put them in a strong position to embark upon the next part of their learning journey.

A third of our A Level entries have achieved A\* and A grade passes, with 61% of our students achieving A\*- B grades in their courses. 12 students have achieved 3 or more A\* or D\* (Vocational) grades – the highest possible achievements, with 34 students achieving straight A/A\* or D/D\* grades.



Two of our highest achieving A Level students have realised their dreams of studying at Oxford and Cambridge, one for Biomedical Sciences and the other for Computer Science, with another student gaining a place at Birmingham University to study Medicine.

Reflecting on the GCSE results Rachel Hutchinson said, "It may have been a challenging year, but the students have been amazingly resilient and so committed to their studies. The staff could not have worked harder in supporting our students, going above and beyond their expected professional duties during such unprecedented times. I have seen first-hand how hard the students and staff have worked over the last year and I am confident that our students have valid, comparable and accurate grades that reflect their commitment. I cannot pass any judgement on the picture nationally, but we at Ivybridge Community College will be celebrating these results".



### College excited as work starts on their new 3G Pitch

A grant has enabled the College to begin work on a new Artificial Grass Pitch, high-quality fencing, storage containers and spectator area. The work will greatly improve the quality and aesthetics of the existing surface. The pitch will be used by College students and teams alongside external and community organisations.

Funding has been sourced from Westcountry Schools Trust, Ivybridge Community College, Sport England, the Premier League and The Football Association (FA). Support and Section 106 funding has also been acquired from South Hams District Council, supported by Ivybridge Town Council Councillors, who see the redeveloped pitch as a significant investment for the town and for the community.

Helen Reddy, Director of Sport said: "The Artificial Grass Pitch will be a fantastic facility, giving opportunities to all our students, and the local community, regardless of whether they are using the pitch for PE lessons, enrichment or general leisure activities".





## Staff Support Positive Wellbeing for World Mental Health Day

Sunday, 10 October was World Mental Health Day 2021 and College staff were encouraged to share images that have a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing. The official theme this year was 'Mental Health in an Unequal World'. Mental health is a vital area at the best of times, but the need for meaningful support in the community has become even more relevant as we continue to navigate the challenges of the pandemic and post-pandemic world.



If we all do **one** thing,  
we can change  
**everything**.

[mind.org.uk/DoOneThing](http://mind.org.uk/DoOneThing)

"To support our staff at the College, we have a number of schemes in place. The basic ethos of all schemes is to encourage and normalise conversations about mental health. So far this term, staff are engaging in the 'Secret Buddy' system and sharing thoughtful notes and gifts. They are also nominating a colleague for a chocolate reward and passing on wellbeing books with messages or pages marked that are poignant. All of which makes the College feel like a closer community. More developments and schemes are to follow and we are proud that the wellbeing of staff at Ivybridge Community College is at the fore of our practice." Helen Ryder, Head of Human Science and Wellbeing Lead.

## 6 Wellbeing at Ivybridge

### Stunning Images Capture the Natural World

To celebrate The Wildlife Trusts' 30 Days Wild initiative, the UK's biggest nature challenge where participants are encouraged to do something wild every day for the month of June, and to recognise Nature Photography Day on 15 June, the College ran a nature photography competition for students and staff. Many high quality images were entered into five categories: Textures and Patterns, Animals,

Water, Plants and Small is Beautiful, with a great deal of creativity on show.

Thom Guy, teacher of Physics and ICT, who organised the competition as part of his work with the College's Sustainability Group, said, "I hoped that the competition would encourage students to spend some time outside exploring the wonderful countryside that we have nearby. It is increasingly recognised that spending time outdoors can reduce stress and improve wellbeing as well as being crucial to fostering a connection with, and appreciation of, the natural world. This is especially important in the face of biodiversity collapse and global climate change."



Please visit the College's website gallery to view more of the winning images.





## Improving Wellbeing through Nature

Year 9 students, namely, Iwan, Riley, Jessica and Megan attended a six week course from September to November at the Dartmoor Pony Heritage Trust. The aim of the course is to develop social and emotional skills through working with the Dartmoor ponies. Forming a relationship with a pony helps young people to build trust and develop a bond of mutual empathy.

As part of their course they visited Challacombe Farm and Headland Warren on a guided walk with Richard Ware, an experienced and qualified guide leader.

Iwan said, "I enjoyed being out in the open, which has enabled me to talk more freely and identified lots about myself. I have enjoyed the different activities like the guided walk at Bellever and Challacombe, meeting the Dartmoor ponies and getting to know them. I feel more confident and my self-esteem has improved enabling me to sign up for the College's School Council."



Paula Lomas, a teaching assistant who accompanied the students said, "It is important for our students' social skills and wellbeing, we are very lucky to be able to work with the Dartmoor Pony Heritage Trust and have Dartmoor so close to us. This is an amazing experience for Ivybridge Community College students."



## Wellbeing at Ivybridge <sup>7</sup>

### Raising Awareness of Anti-Bullying with 'One Kind Word'

In aid of raising funds and awareness of Anti-Bullying week, (15 - 19 November), various activities took place at the College, including, 'Odd Socks Day' with staff and students alike embracing the opportunity to impress with their colourful creations in celebration of diversity and uniqueness.

Darby Ball, teacher of Human Sciences and the College's Equality Lead said, "There has been a real buzz at the College all week and I am so very proud of the Anti-Bullying and Equality Ambassadors who energetically manned the awareness stalls to spread such a good message to the rest of our students, offering the opportunity for students to give feedback and have their voices heard in terms of Anti-Bullying at the College. Thank you to everyone who got involved and supported Anti-Bullying Week, whether that was through wearing odd socks, visiting our awareness stalls by the Learning Resource Centre, buying a cake at the various cake sales, delivering the CPSHE and Character Education programme or simply spreading the message of 'One Kind Word'.

The Key Stages 4 and 5 Amnesty International Group brought Anti-Bullying Week to a close with a final charity cake sale that spread awareness of, and promoted equality for, race, gender and disability. A truly fantastic effort from all involved."

Students who participated during the week said, "We have loved earning our Anti-Bullying badges this week," and "It's been so much better after COVID-19 restrictions easing because we can get involved with everything again."

The following is an extract from 'I am not a Bystander' written by an Equality Ambassadors student, "When I heard that the Equality and Diversity Ambassadors were recruiting, I knew that this was exactly the opportunity I was looking for. A chance to get involved and bring about change and not be a bystander, and passive while the problems carry on. The Ambassadors are a vital cog in the machine that bring progression to the College and even if you don't want to be directly involved you can also help by coming to us with suggestions and questions. Be the change you want to be, beginning right here at Ivybridge Community College."

Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us.

This is one of the reasons that 'One Kind Word' has been chosen as the theme of Anti-Bullying Week this year.







## 8 Character Education

### Fundraising Cycling Challenge Inspires Students

The College's acting Director of English, Becky Smith, is an inspiration to her students. Together with family and friends, she cycled a lap of England in just 10 days and in doing so they have succeeded in raising in excess of £7,500 for St Luke's Hospice, Plymouth.

On her return to College after the summer holidays, Becky told her students about her amazing adventure and her Year 10 students were justifiably inspired by her story commenting, "Miss Smith is such a huge role model and I hope that it motivates more people to reach their full potential," said Charlotte. "To cycle 980 miles in just 10 days is an incredible achievement. To do it for **charity** is even more special," agreed Thomas. "This is an amazing example of what teachers are capable of. She has always had a passion for challenging herself and Miss Smith has given up a lot of her time as well as balancing being a great English teacher for **charity**," added Gemma and "I think that Miss Smith has shown how passionate she is to inspire all of us to do something for **charity** – she is an inspiration," said Arabella.

"It's vital that students can see us challenge ourselves, see us move out of our comfort zones and find stuff really hard and really frightening. Those emotions aren't just felt by children or teenagers. If I can inspire one person to try something new or give themselves a push, my job is done." Becky Smith.

Their JustGiving page is still open for donations - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/paellaton> and you can view a video of their cycling challenge and arrival at St Luke's Hospice here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRCHi5Exjw>

### Students Success at Completing DofE Awards

The College is proud to announce that another twenty-one students have completed their Duke of Edinburgh Award in the last year.

Certificates and pin badges were presented to the students by Andrew Mitchell, the College's DofE Manager, who said, "It is fantastic to see the first cohort of students receiving their awards, following the break due to COVID-19. Many of the participants had to change the activities that they had planned to undertake, due to the restrictions in place. There are several more students who are close to finishing their awards and we look forward to seeing them complete soon."

Caron Russell, The College's DofE Administrator/Leader, added, "A big congratulations to all involved and we hope that their determination, **resilience** and commitment to the award will carry them forward onto the next level."







## Character Education 9

### Remembrance Day

The College was proud to support Remembrance Day on Thursday, 11 November, with a visit to the war memorial in Ivybridge. Archie, in Year 7 and sisters Sophie, in Year 10 and Lucy, in Year 7, were invited to participate in the laying of the wreath, representing the whole College, staff and governors.

The College supported Remembrance Day with a two minutes silence held in classrooms, with a reading from For the Fallen, by Dan Hayward, Head of History, and the Last Post played by Harry, in Year 10. Students and staff across the College paid their respects, and have engaged with assemblies and tutorial sessions focused on Remembrance, to support our Character Virtue focus of **respect**.

"We felt very proud when laying the wreath on behalf of the College because it reflected the years our dad has served for our country, and to remember all who have died in the line of duty." Sophie and Lucy.

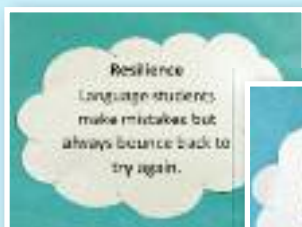
Staff and students also represented the College for the Ivybridge Town Remembrance Day Service which was held on Sunday, 14 November, and the College was extremely proud that Mailli, in Year 9, played the Last Post at this ceremony.

### Character Virtues Showcased in Modern Languages

A wonderful display board created in the Modern Foreign Languages Department is promoting the College's Character Virtues by showcasing photographs and comments from staff about different aspects of how language has been an important part of their lives.

Louisa Quinn, teacher of Modern Foreign Language, who organised the display, together with Alex Pitcher said, "Staff have risen to the challenge and taken this opportunity to share some of their photographs and stories with our students. They have explained about the languages that they speak and how language has been advantageous to them during their lives." Louisa spoke of her **resilience** and added, "My photograph, taken on a rather old, pre-digital camera, was of myself carrying out **charity** work in French speaking Togo, which is in West Africa."

Jenni Bindon, MFL Lead Practitioner commented on the "**courage** and **resilience**" needed being the only non-German student in the class and the "**empathy** and **respect**" that she gained whilst studying and living in Berlin.



Thank you to all our staff who sent in photographs and personal stories, the students have been really inspired by the wonderful display.





## 10 Transition Enrichment Day

### Students get active at College's Transition Enrichment Day

New initiative was a warm welcome for 245 attendees

Year 6 students preparing to transition to Ivybridge Community College received a warm welcome when they attended a summer enrichment day, with a wide variety of different activities.

The 245 excited students spent a full day at the College, towards the end of their summer break, taking part in a diverse range of seven activities including circus skills, gymnastics, music, orienteering, problem solving, rugby, and team building. The new initiative was a timely occasion for the students, who were able to learn more about the College site, which can be a daunting prospect for newcomers, and it also gave them a preview of the College's enrichment opportunities.

"After such a turbulent couple of years for these young students, it was great to be able to show them that Ivybridge Community College is friendly and welcoming," said Helen Reddy, Director of Enrichment and Sports Academy. "This is the first time that we have run a day like this for our new Year 7 students, and the goal was to show them that, despite being such a large campus, the College is not so daunting. Enrichment plays a huge part in these students' whole-College experience and we wanted to reassure them that their new environment is somewhere that they should look forward to attending."

COVID-19 restrictions have meant that primary school pupils have not been able to visit the College over the last 18 months, so the College took the first opportunity it could to make the day possible.

The day included six different 30 minute sessions for the students, where they were split into their new Tutor Groups, so they were able to make new friends immediately and get to know those that they would be sharing their first year with.

Helen added, "The day was a tremendous success with lots of positive feedback, so we will certainly be running it again for future Year 7 students."







## Summer School

11

### Bespoke Summer School Programme a Resounding Success

During the last week of the summer holidays, we hosted our Summer School Programme at the College. This bespoke programme was designed to support and inspire students ahead of their return to College for the Autumn Term.

The Summer School Programme took place across four days, with our Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 students attending for two days, and our new Year 7 students attending for three.

"I have loved it!"

Emily Tyers, who organised the event in her role as the Recovery Programme and Pupil Premium Strategic Lead at the College said, "Students were able to participate in a fantastic variety of enriching and engaging activities, including: literacy, numeracy, leisure, languages, history and building earthquake proof buildings. The feedback for the participating students was very positive too!"

"I never realised I was good at this before"

"I am really excited now"  
(with reference to starting at the College)









# Equality through Art

Year 10 Art students have been researching the Namibian artist John Muafangejo who famously produced artwork as a peaceful protest against segregation of blacks and whites in Africa, known as Apartheid.

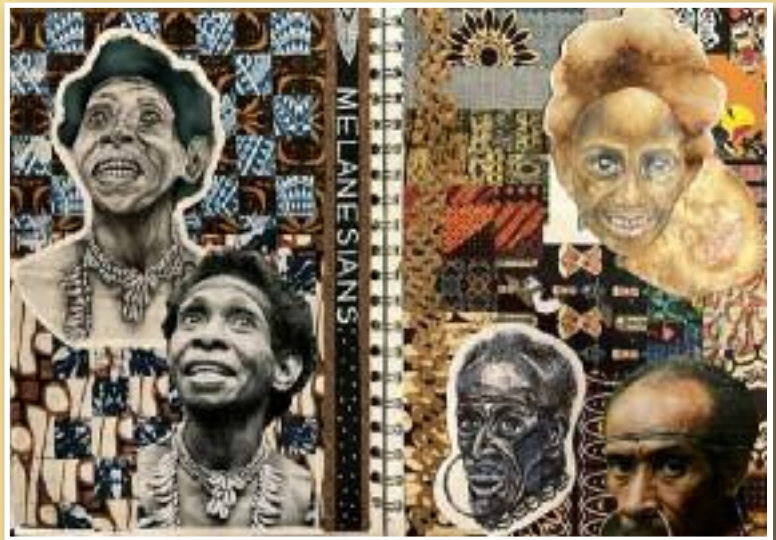
Muafangejo overcame many personal challenges in his life reflecting character virtues of courage and resilience, through his artwork he showed respect for others, tolerance and empathy.

His artwork has gone on to inspire UNESCO art projects that positively promote equality.

Students have presented their work creatively to reflect the monochromatic printmaking style of Muafangejo, producing exciting and effective pages.

Congratulations to all students involved, namely Holly, Ruby, Erin, Darci and Lola

Star Artist for Art in Year 10 - Lottie  
Nominated for consistently  
exceptional skills and creativity



## Creative Arts

13

Finley, Year 9



Jaiyana, Year 12



Eloise, Year 9



Abi, Year 11



Leila, Year 11



## Photography

River, Year 9



James, Year 12



James, Year 11







## Army Challenge Day Champions

Year 13 Public Service students attended the Duchy College, Callington, in October. Together with Year 11 students, who are interested in a career in the services, they competed against 12 other teams from schools across Devon and Cornwall on the Army's Challenge Day, which aims to develop teamwork and leadership skills.

The 6 challenges showcased the different type of regiments within the British Army, and were run by members of the Army who had served in those specific regiments. This gave the students the opportunity to ask more relevant questions, but more importantly see exactly what each regiment does.



The challenges included an observation one, a team building obstacle race, the Gun Range, a problem-solving team work based challenge, note-taking, and the much anticipated Gun Run, which was the most physical of all of the challenges.

"All of these challenges taught the students how to work well within a team and follow the British Army attributes of Courage, Discipline, Respect for Others, Integrity, Loyalty and Selfless Commitment. They all had a fantastic experience and to top it off the Year 11 team won the whole day, with Carys in Year 11 also achieving a special award for leadership." Claire Mitchell, Deputy Team Leader of PE.

## 14 BTEC Public Services and Sport

### Protective Services Enrichment Opportunities

The College was delighted to host Caroline Anderson, an Education and Recruitment Officer for the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, in October. Students at the College were given the opportunity to attend the presentation if they were interested in a career in the Protective Services.

Year 13 student, Peter, who attended the presentation said, "We heard about Caroline's experiences in the Fire Service and what she has done in her 18 years of serving. We learnt about the application process and what type of tests you have to do to get in. It was really helpful to hear the information from a member of the Fire Service and someone with her experience. At the end of the talk we had an opportunity to ask her any questions and she delivered helpful information to the younger Year 11 students, and also to the Year 13 students who were putting their applications in."

"It was fantastic to see how many students were interested a career in the services and how engaged they were with the presentation. Students were able to take away some inspiring and key information related to the Fire and Rescue Service. We look forward to welcoming back Caroline and her team to the College very soon." Ross James, Assistant Team Leader for PE and BTEC Lead.



### Improving Understanding of Police in the Community

Year 13 Public Services students had the opportunity to experience a Hate Crime Workshop delivered by Graeme Kirkup, a former police officer, who is currently working for the Crime Commissioner.

The students are currently studying a unit of work looking at crime and its effects on society, so it was very beneficial for them to develop their understanding and awareness on hate crime, both locally and nationally.

Year 13 student, Pete, who is studying the Level 3 BTEC Public Services course said, "Graeme Kirkup is an experienced police officer who worked within a lot of different units including the Diversity Unit in Plymouth. He explained what his role entailed, and the type of incidents he attended. He also explained what made a hate crime and gave local examples. Everything Graeme discussed has really helped us with our current assignment, and has given us ideas on how the police prevent crimes, support communities and victims."



Rhys also shared his experience of the workshop, saying, "I found the workshop very interesting, as we learned about aspects of the police force that we had not heard of before. It was definitely an eye opener as to how the force is perceived on the news. The talk has helped the whole class to see what the police deal with, what support they offer the community and how they can help to prevent crime."





## BTEC Public Services and Sport 15

### BTEC Students Gain Level 2 Sports First Aid Qualification

Year 12 BTEC Sport students recently acquired the knowledge and skills to enable them to recognise and respond to injury and illness in various sporting contexts when they gained a valuable Level 2 First Aid qualification.

The course included resuscitation techniques, placing a patient into the recovery position and dealing with different types of injuries. The day was a blend of theory and practical with an examination in the afternoon to assess the students' practical skills and knowledge.

Jill Chapman, who was the course Tutor, and is also a Chartered and State Registered Physiotherapist, said, "Emergencies can strike at any moment during sports events and training sessions, so it's important to be prepared to handle it with the correct first aid training. The ten students who attended the training performed exceptionally well and took on all the information from the day, and this showed in their practical examination as well as their theory understanding."

Year 12 student, Elysia, who gained a qualification on the course, said, "The course has given me a chance to help and save people in need, which I couldn't have done before I attended the first aid course."

### Critical thinking, Creativity and Cooperation

In November, the College welcomed the Army's Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) and Infantry Instruction Teams. They were onsite to deliver activities for students in Year 11 who had shown a particular interest in joining the Services as a possible future career.

The event started with students receiving an introduction to the REME team and gave students the opportunity to ask questions about a career in the Army. Students then took part in several activities involving problem-solving and teamwork, instructed by the Army personnel.

Ross James, Assistant Team Leader of PE said, "It was a brilliant enrichment opportunity for students to engage in, and they were outstanding throughout. The activities were challenging, allowing students to use critical thinking, creativity, and cooperation. It also gave students an insight into the knowledge and skills required for particular roles in the Services."











Ruby

## Science

17

### Student success in Physics Photography Competition

Students throughout all years at the College were encouraged to enter The Ogden Exeter and East Devon Partnership annual 'Love Physics' photography competition. This competition looks to capture students' imagination and inspire them about the physics that is all around them in everyday life, and produced some very impressive entries.

We are delighted to announce that three students from the College were successful in the competition, with Ruby, in Year 8 achieving second place in her age category with her 'Refraction' image. Year 11 student, Madi, and Azad, in Year 8, both received commendations for their photographic entries.



Madi



Azad

### Renewable Energy Session with the Exeter Science Centre

Year 7 students were very fortunate to have been involved in a livestream link to an event organised by the Exeter Science Centre. The two founders and directors are Dr Natalie Whitehead, a former engineer designing buildings, turned physicist PhD in Physics, magnetic materials) and Dr Alice Mills who has a PhD in astrophysics and was a former Outreach Officer at the University of Exeter. Together with several other schools, including Holbeton Primary School, they joined solar experts and engineers on location at Creacombe Solar Farm, which is located in Devon, between Holbeton and Yealmlpton.

Richard Barry, Head of Physics, said, "The students enjoyed learning about solar panels, and hearing from the engineers and scientists who work on different aspects of providing renewable electricity. During the session the class had to experiment with mini-solar panels in small groups to discover the best angle and compass direction to point the panels to be most efficient."



### Creative 'Cell' Cake

Year 12 students, Eleanor and James surprised their classmates with an amazing cake decorated to show their knowledge of cell ultrastructure. The students decided to bake and decorate the cake following a comment from their Biology teacher, Mr Bridge, that "back in the day someone had made a cake to help demonstrate knowledge of cell ultrastructure." They decided to surprise him and took up the challenge, and the end result was shared with the students during their lesson.







## 18 STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

### Greenpower - A Driving Force for Girls in STEM



The College is delighted to be taking part in the Greenpower Electric Vehicles Challenge. This national competition is organised through the UK charity Greenpower Education Trust. The Trust inspires young people around the world to excel in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) through a unique challenge: to design, build and race an electric car. The project started during the first week of November and will run until June 2022 when they will compete in the regional Greenpower Race Day.

Craig Jewel, teacher of Physics at the College, is championing this initiative through his weekly Girls in Science Club. He said, "I am delighted that 15 girls have currently signed up for the club. We are also very fortunate that Western Power Distribution have funded us for the kits, tools and everything we need to compete. Luke Skorka-Brown from the College's Design and Technology Department, together with two Western Power Distribution engineers are also assisting the girls in building the car."

Nick South, Western Power Distribution's Education Liaison Officer said, "We decided to sponsor teams to encourage more girls to get involved with STEM projects. I visited the College with our STEM ambassadors to deliver the kit and to meet the team of enthusiastic engineers who will design, build and eventually race the car. I have no doubt that we have done well to secure this partnership with Ivybridge Community College."

### Inspirational Festival of Physics at Exeter University

In November, Year 12 student Physicists, and Year 10 students from the College's Girls into STEM Group, had the opportunity to visit Exeter University and attend the Institute Of Physics' Festival of Physics. The students, accompanied by Craig Jewel, teacher of Physics, attended motivational talks, demonstrations and workshops all showing how Physics is part of our everyday lives.

Year 12 student, Toby, who attended the event said, "The Festival of Physics was one of the most informative College visits I have been on. Alongside informative lectures was an opportunity to gain an insight into some of

the fascinating, cutting-edge research being done at Exeter University within their Physics Department, and a chance to speak to some of the students about what they do over the course of their degree.

Highlights of the day included Professor Samble's lecture, The Wonder of Light, which included some breath-taking and remarkably colourful demonstrations. I also really enjoyed the explanation of the uses in gold nanoparticles and near infrared light in a non-invasive cancer therapy. This research is being conducted by, among others, Dr Charlie Jaynes (whom I spoke to). Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed the day at the University of Exeter, and learnt many incredible things; I would definitely recommend the visit to anyone considering going in future years."



**IOP** Institute of Physics





## Successful Learning Strategies at Support Sessions

In September, the Mathematics Department delivered two well attended support sessions aimed at empowering parents and carers to support their children with their Mathematics, and also giving them a wider knowledge of Mathematics provision at the College.

The Key Stage 3 session, aimed at Years 7 and 8, gave information on Sparx and also introduced a whole range of activities to support students at home in fun and engaging ways.

One parent said, "Tonight has given me lots of ideas to go home with; it has been a really useful evening."

The Key Stage 4 session gave details on what students should be doing to ensure they reach their full potential in Mathematics. This included such information as: which calculators are best and why, details about the final exams, revision guides and flashcards to support students with their revision.

Laura Davies, Director of Mathematics, said, "As a Department we are very proud of our home learning systems, and this was fully explained during the evening. Current and former students shared with parents and carers the strategies that they had used to ensure they did the best they could with their Mathematics. These students did a fantastic job and are an asset to the College."

There were many positive comments at the end of the evening with one parent saying, "The students that spoke showed so much enthusiasm and you could tell they were passionate and proud of their successes, a great evening thank you."

## Students Volunteer as Mathematics Mentors

At Ivybridge Community College we encourage our Sixth Form students to engage in voluntary work as mentors to help develop new skills and build on their experience.

It has been wonderful to see Sixth Form students supporting Key Stages 3 and 4 Mathematics classes, and being great role models for the younger students. As well as being a fantastic support to younger students, the Sixth Form students have improved their communication skills through developing clear and concise explanations.

Maisie, a Year 12 student mentor said, "I am finding the volunteering experience really interesting, as I am currently helping a Year 7 student who finds Mathematics a bit difficult. I have been working with her for a few weeks and have already noticed a massive difference in her attitude and skills for the subject. It's been really lovely to see someone I have been helping coming out of their shell and doing really well."

If you are a current Year 12 student and would like to become a volunteer student mentor, please speak with a member of the Mathematics Department or Alison Sarson, Lead Practitioner, to help find a class that fits in with your timetable.







## 20 Modern Foreign Language

### Students Celebrate European Week of Languages

During the week commencing Monday, 20 September, students at the College celebrated the European Week of Languages. This year marked the 20th Anniversary of the European Day of Languages and to celebrate it, the Modern Foreign Languages Department prepared a wonderful series of activities for the week.

Students from all Year Groups were invited to participate in a Dress up a Potato competition. The potatoes had to represent a language or culture from around the world. They were displayed in the Learning Resource Centre where staff and students were invited to vote. The creators of the winning potatoes were announced in Assemblies and received their prize of free chips from the Dining Hall.

1st prize Bethany in Year 7 with Poland  
2nd prize Maya in Year 7 with Mexico  
3rd prize Jude in Year 10 with England

Students in Years 7 and 8 also took part in a Word Hunt challenge, whereby teachers across all Departments displayed signs saying "hello" in various languages on their desks. The students had to find as many as possible and try to guess the language. Some were very tricky, but three lucky winners received prizes of edible goodies.

Across the week all Year 8 and 9 Languages students wrote a postcard in French or Spanish to thank a teacher of their choice. These were then delivered to the relevant staff.



Finally, all Tutor Groups across the College participated in a Language and Culture Quiz during Tutor time. All three top prizes were won by Year 8 Tutor Groups, a wonderful achievement.

Kelly Olive, Deputy Principal said, "Thank you to colleagues in the Modern Foreign Languages Department for embracing the European Day of Languages in such emphatic style. This range of exciting challenges really encouraged students of all years to get involved. I was a particular fan of the Potato competition where students were incredibly creative and drew upon their knowledge of the cultural context of these countries to support their designs."





## English

21

### Inspiring a Love for Poetry

National Poetry Day is a UK wide celebration of poetry, which took place on Thursday, 7 October and saw staff and students alike getting all poetic in College.

The theme this year was 'Choice' and students were challenged to produce poems in a variety of subject areas, allowing them the chance to respond to their learning in a creative way. In Religious Studies, for example, students have been learning about cave people, what they feared and how this led to early religious beliefs. Joshua, in Year 7 produced this lovely caveman poem.

As well as the students getting lyrical, Director of English, Becky Smith challenged the staff to write limericks too.

*Maths is a language, no offence,  
If you thought it's just Spanish or French,  
'cos Maths is one too,  
Spoken by few,  
But in Physics we make Maths make sense.*

The Science Department, in particular, produced a wonderful array. One cross-curricular favourite was penned by Mx Barry.

There was a wonderful buzz around the College, with staff and students sharing their favourite poems, inspiring a love for poetry and a curiosity about literature.

*There once was a family of cavemen  
Ug, Plug and Glug.  
Their mission was to find some fish,  
to provide them with a pleasant dish.  
Off to the lake they all did go  
No buckets, no spades but fishing rods in tow.  
The rain came down, it howled it poured,  
The thunder went BANG,  
The cavemen, they roared.  
Quick, quick they ran,  
But then the eruption of the volcano began.  
They quickly turned and tried to go back,  
The woods was so close, they lost track.  
Into the woods they ended up,  
Surrounded by animals, that's not good luck!*

### Donkey Hoaty goes Riding at Erme Valley!

Donkey Hoaty was invited to attend the Erme Valley Riding School, on a short adventure to Bittaford, with Year 10 BTEC Horse Care students, Caitlin and Logan. He had a ride on Arthur, who was caught red handed eating a molasses (treacle) horse lick, as you can see on his nose!

Donkey Hoaty is sat a popular breed of pony, can you name it? How many other breeds do you know?







## 22 Performing Arts

### Singing Club Steps Outside

The College's Singing Club has had to endure so many restrictions to practical music making and singing due to COVID-19, therefore it was a moment to celebrate when they ventured outside to perform recently.

The group, who rehearse on Tuesday lunchtimes, have really enjoyed getting together to sing some favourite songs and decided that as part of their 'unlocking' Music programme, they would like to have their voices heard, out and around the College site. Therefore, they have taken their music and voices outside and enjoyed singing in the Year 7 Peverall Quad area. Lots of students came and listened and many also joined in with songs that they recognised. One student commented that, "It was so nice to hear live music again".

They were accompanied by Hannah Stephenson, teacher of Music, on the keyboard, who said, "I felt quite emotional, hearing so many students finally being able to sing together again. It was a lovely moment and we were delighted that students in the area joined in with our singing."

The Singing Club will be venturing out on the second Tuesday of each month, so watch out for them and feel free to join in. The club is open to students in Years 7, 8 and 9, so please feel free to join them at any time in C3.07 on Tuesday lunchtimes from 12.40-1.10pm.



### Speech and Drama Festival

In November, students from the College attended The City of Plymouth Festival of Music, Dance, Speech and Drama. The festival was founded in 1914 and is affiliated to the National Federation of Festivals. The experience differs from other situations in that it offers participants the opportunity to dance, recite, sing and make music in front of an audience and receive a mark and feedback from a qualified adjudicator. They will therefore look for a complete performance which, where appropriate, includes: technique; presentation; musicality; costume; make up and entrances and exits.

We are delighted that Year 10 student, Edie, won the Prose Speaking class with her speaking of 'Coraline'. Lillie, in Year 9, came 3rd with her performance of 'Little Women' and Sophia, also in Year 10, was placed 4th.

Sam, in Year 11, won the 15-17 years acting class and was awarded a Distinction having really impressed the adjudicator.



Edie



Lillie







### Spooktacular Stories in Halloween Writing Competition

During the month of October the Learning Resource Centre ran the Short Story Spooktacular, a writing competition that encouraged students to send in their spookiest 500 word short stories based on the theme of Halloween. They were inundated with over one hundred short stories, from across all Year Groups, and featuring hundreds of haunted houses, many monstrous murders, and dozens of dangerous demons. The librarians spent many hours reading these short stories with fear prickling their spines; who knew students had such terrifying imaginations?

The stories were judged on their unique plots, their use of creative language, and their clever endings. The Key Stage 3 winning entry was by Year 7 student, Xander, and Holly-Marie, also in Year 7 was the Key Stage 3 second place winner. The Key Stage 4 winning entry was by Rebecca, in Year 9 and the second place winner in Key Stage 4 was Cara, also in Year 9.

Holly Trafford, College Librarian said, "This was a great opportunity that showcased our students' writing talents. We loved reading all the entries, it particularly highlighted the creativity of our students and their love of literacy." Kelly Olive, Deputy Principal, added, "It is fantastic to have students of all ages participating so enthusiastically in story writing. Well done to everyone who submitted their entries and we hope you keep writing your masterpieces."

### The Reading Underground Challenge

This year, the Learning Resource Centre's reading challenge is 'The Reading Underground'. This is based on the famous London Underground, but rather than visiting iconic stations, students have to complete book based challenges in a specific order. The challenges range from simple; 'Read 50 pages' or 'Read a book with a red cover', to slightly harder tasks of; 'Read a trilogy of books', or 'Read 500 pages'. There are 45 challenges in total for students to complete over the course of the year.

This term, over one hundred students from all Year Groups across the College have started their Reading Underground journey. Students receive a praise point for every challenge they complete, and those who have completed at least six challenges this term were invited to the Learning Resource Centre's Movie Day.

Tom, in Year 7, the top reader in Key Stage 3, said that he has enjoyed The Reading Underground because "it's given me purpose to reading rather than not knowing what to read next." Year 9 student, Dylan, the leader in Key Stage 4, said, "It helps you to read something new, it encourages trying new genres and different authors."







## 24 Elite Talent Programme

### Nathaniel Takes on Sheffield's Olympic Bouldering Wall

Year 11 student Nathaniel Parkes had the opportunity to experience a training weekend with Olympic athletes and coaches in Sheffield recently. His two coaches were blown away with his ability, dedication and hard work, receiving coaching tips and a high amount of praise from Olympic rock climbing athlete Shauna Coxsey. Nathaniel climbed eight indoor climbing routes in total and he was successful on six of them. Unfortunately, he wasn't physically tall enough to stretch and reach the holds on the other two.

Nathaniel said, "The experience was amazing and I'm fortunate to have taken on such challenging routes. It has given me great confidence leading into the upcoming weekend's climbing series. I'm extremely grateful that Ivybridge Community College gave me the time off to travel to the training weekend."

Nathaniel also recently took part in the final rounds of the British Mountaineering Council (BMC) Youth Climbing Series, taking second place overall in the South West series, despite having COVID-19 and missing the first round. The exceptional results mean that Nathaniel has now qualified for the National Grand Final.

"I have been able to deal with some disruptions to my training, and I am so pleased for this great result and I look forward to the National Final now", said Nathaniel

### Caleb Roberts makes Plymouth Argyle First Team Debut

Caleb Roberts made his Plymouth Argyle first team debut in the Papa Johns League Cup competition on Tuesday, 2 November. He came on as a second half substitution in the 58th minute. Plymouth Argyle drew the game 1-1 but won 5-4 in a penalty shoot-out.

Caleb is the first Ivybridge Community College student to make their full professional debut whilst still at the College and has already accepted the offer of a professional contract with the League One club when he turns 17 next October.

Caleb added his thoughts about the game, saying, "I am very proud to have made my first appearance for Plymouth Argyle. The game was a really high tempo and I felt a little nervous just before coming on, but once I was on it felt natural and I forgot all about my nerves and eased my way into the game and felt confident to show what I can do. The penalties were a great experience to win and I nearly had a chance to take one, as I was the next player if we had missed what turned out to be our winning penalty."



## The Elite Talent Programme

"Over the coming year we will be looking to support an increasing number of students through our Elite Talent Programme, giving them an athlete profile, specialist strength and conditioning support and the opportunity to compete at a high level with the support of the College."

Helen Reddy, Director of Sports Academy.





## Elite Talent Programme

25

### Ollie Secures 5th Place in National XC Championships

Year 11 student Ollie Murphy made a strong start to the Mountain Biking Cross Country (XC) racing season, winning the Southwest Regional Championships. He followed this up with a fifth place finish in the HSBC UK National XC Championships.

From June to September Ollie also competed in the HSBC National XC Race Series, finishing in eighth overall and placing fourth in the British Cycling National Rankings with 770 points.

Ollie said: "Being the regional champion at the start of the season was a great achievement for me and it helped build my confidence ahead of the National Series races. A podium position in the National Championship would have been a dream come true, but with several of the best riders in the country who are a year older than me it was a tall order."

Ollie is now preparing a training plan for 2022, with the aim of a top three podium finish in both the National Series and the National Championships.

### Adam Competes in National Finals

Year 10 student, Adam Dingley, represented Devon in the English Schools Athletics Association (ESAA) Combined Events Championship in Bedford. He was part of the Devon Junior Boys Pentathlon team that placed fifth in the finals. The national championships saw Adam performing the 80m hurdles, shot put, long jump, high jump and 800m.

Adam said: "It was good to compete at such a high-level event. It was a great day of highs and lows but there was plenty to take away from the weekend to help me continue my development. I am appreciative also for the support of the College for giving me the time off to compete at the event."

Adam also recently took part in hurdle training sessions with GB Olympian, David King. King attended the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, making the semi-finals of the men's 110m hurdles, so when the opportunity arose to have specific hurdle training by him, Adam says it was "too good an opportunity to refuse," adding, "It was fantastic to get this training, and to experience first-hand what I aspire to be and to see what it takes to train at that level."

### Ellie Selected for England Football Camp

The College is delighted to announce that Year 11 student, Ellie Sara, has been selected to participate in the England Football Womens' U16 December Camp to be held at St George's Park, Burton upon Trent.







## 26 Elite Talent Programme

### Jake Competes in International Showjumping Event

Year 13 student, Jake Myers, proved that he can compete with the very best showjumpers in the country when he took part in his first indoor show of the season, the Keysoe International Senior British Show Jumping Winter Classic. The show included strong competition for Jake, who was one of the youngest riders at the event.

Jake rode Calcourt Qualvados (Alice) winning the 1.35m winter qualifier from a field more than 60 competitors. This qualified them for the spring Championships. They jumped clear around a very technical track (built at 1.35/1.40m jumps) and were then clear again in the jump off at 1.45m, finishing with the fastest time.

Jake also competed on 'Fun Time Cilla', in the 1.40 Grand Prix, finishing 12th out of 45 competitors. Jake said, "I was very pleased and I am looking forward to jumping more Grand Prix events with Cilla."

### Wonderful Dance Opportunities for students

Congratulations to Year 7 student, Bethany Bent and Year 9 student, Harriet Meadows, who successfully auditioned with the English Youth Ballet to perform in Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker at The Princess Theatre, Torquay, in October.

It has been a significant wait for Bethany, with a planned performance as part of Birmingham Royal Ballet being sadly cancelled due to COVID-19 last year, but her patience has paid off.

Bethany has also recently gained a place on the Swindon Dance Centre for Advanced Training programme based in Exeter, and now has the opportunity to develop her dance practice, with the hope of many more future performances such as this to look forward to.

Harriet will be dancing 'on pointe' to the Waltz of the Flowers in the ballet. "I've always loved dancing," she said, "It has been a big part of my life for as long as I've known. I can't wait to perform in the show, wear the amazing costume on stage, and perform with my new dance friends."

Harriet has enjoyed two years with the Royal Ballet on their Junior Associate Programme, and has undertaken workshops at The Royal Ballet School in Covent Garden. She has also met former Principal of The Royal Ballet, Darcey Bussell. When the Royal Ballet Programme ended, Harriet auditioned for Ballet Boost in Exeter and she is currently in the Upper Senior Class, dancing five or six nights every week.

Helen Reddy, Head of Performing Arts at the College, said, "Performing with the English Youth Ballet is a marvellous opportunity for both Harriet and Bethany. We wish them the very best of luck with their performances in the Nutcracker."



Bethany



Harriet





## Sporting Achievements

27

### Students Win County Gig Rowing Championships

Year 11 students, Fin Mulville and Ollie Hicks have recently won the 2021 CPGA Cornish Pilot Gig Rowing Championships.

In August, Fin and Ollie participated in the 2021 CPGA Cornish Pilot Gig Rowing Championships held in Hayle, with their Caradon U15 A Crew. After three heats of competition they topped their group with maximum points and booked a place in the final, whilst also setting the fastest time of the entire competition with a record 03:38:00. In the final they finished two seconds ahead of their nearest competition to seal the win and be crowned 2021 County Champions.

After winning the championships, Fin said, "I have been rowing for just under a year for Caradon Rowing Club in Saltash. We train 3-4 times a week so a lot of hard work went into winning the championship. When we won it was the best feeling ever knowing we were the best team in the whole of Cornwall". Ollie added, "Rowing is my hobby outside of the rugby season. I have been gig rowing for about four years now for Caradon and I also train four times a week. It felt amazing to win and get the fastest time out of all the teams in the competition, as we had worked and trained so hard in the run up to the competition".

Ollie and Fin's Tutors at the College were delighted to hear their news, with Chris Meikle commenting, "Ollie has shown great determination in a number of sporting endeavours since joining Ivybridge and it is brilliant to see his hard work pay off with more success!" Paul Maddaford added, "Fin enjoys the challenge and teamwork, a huge achievement, many congratulations".



### Social Media Updates

The Sports Academies at the College compete in numerous events, and we are always delighted to showcase their achievements. Please follow us on social media to receive regular match and competition updates and results.





## Amazing atmosphere at Sixth Form Open Evening

In November the College held its annual Sixth Form Open Evening; a brilliant event with a wonderful turnout. Teachers and current students were on hand to give advice and guidance on courses and the application process and what it is like to be part of our Sixth Form community.

We have received some very complimentary feedback from parents of Year 11 students who attended the Open Evening, "Thank you for giving the super A Level presentation and all the email communications." "Well done for a great Sixth Form Open Evening. It was informative and well presented with passionate teachers who gave up their time to inspire the next intake so wonderfully."

If you are a prospective new applicant to the College who is interested in joining our Sixth Form, please contact our Sixth Form Admissions Team on 01752 891774. We are also holding an Open Morning for prospective students on Thursday, 13 January 2022 from 9.30am - 11.30am.

**For further information, and to book your place, please visit the College website.**



28

## Sixth Form

### Army Officer Scholarship Awarded to Outstanding Student

Year 13 student, Maisie Frickleton, has a very exciting future ahead of her. She has recently been awarded an Army Officer Scholarship and will also be joining the Army as an Infantry Officer, training at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, in four years' time.

Maisie is currently in her final year at the College, studying A Levels in Mathematics, Biology and Chemistry.

In July, Maisie travelled to the Army Officer Recruitment Centre, at Westbury, and completed the various selection processes. She was one of 500 applicants, divided into cohorts of twenty-eight for the process. In her cohort, Maisie was one of only two applicants with a state school education background, the others being privately educated. Out of these twenty-eight applicants, only two were accepted for scholarships.

Maisie stated that her time at the College was invaluable to this selection process, "Since joining Ivybridge Community College in Year 8, I have always

been offered opportunities in both extra-curricular and academic activities, which has helped me gain experience that I was able to bring into my assessment."

Maisie is a very proficient football player, playing to an extremely high standard. She used to play for Plymouth Argyle Ladies' Team as their second Goalkeeper, but changed to St Austell Ladies' Team to enjoy more gameplay as their first Goalkeeper.

Before embarking on her degree in Crime and Security Science at UCL (University College London), Maisie will travel to America where she has decided to enrol as a Camp Leader at the summer camps. This will give her the opportunity to gain new employability and life skills whilst having the best summer ever.

Heather Lilley, Deputy Principal at the College congratulated Maisie on her fantastic scholarship, "We are so proud of Maisie here at the College; Maisie is a wonderful student and ambassador for the College. Always dedicated and determined, Maisie thoroughly deserves this accolade and certainly has an exciting future ahead of her."



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TimBadgerPhotos.com